

# EDMONDS CITY COUNCIL APPROVED MINUTES

## May 6, 2008

Following a Special Meeting at 6:30 p.m. for an Executive Session regarding labor negotiations, the Edmonds City Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Haakenson in the Council Chambers, 250 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Edmonds. The meeting was opened with the flag salute.

### ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT

Gary Haakenson, Mayor  
Michael Plunkett, Council President  
Peggy Pritchard Olson, Councilmember  
Steve Bernheim, Councilmember  
D. J. Wilson, Councilmember  
Dave Orvis, Councilmember  
Ron Wambolt, Councilmember

### ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT

Deanna Dawson, Councilmember

### ALSO PRESENT

Hilary Scheibert, Student Representative

### STAFF PRESENT

Al Compaan, Police Chief  
Duane Bowman, Development Services Director  
Brian McIntosh, Parks & Recreation Director  
Noel Miller, Public Works Director  
Debi Humann, Human Resources Manager  
Frances Chapin, Cultural Services Manager  
Bertrand Hauss, Traffic Engineer  
Scott Snyder, City Attorney  
Sandy Chase, City Clerk  
Jana Spellman, Senior Executive Council Asst.  
Jeannie Dines, Recorder

### 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Haakenson requested the addition of Item I to the Consent Agenda, "Approval of a Tentative Labor Agreement with the Teamsters Union" subject to formal approval in two weeks.

**COUNCILMEMBER WAMBOLT MOVED, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OLSON, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA IN CONTENT AND ORDER AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### 2. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

**COUNCILMEMBER WAMBOLT MOVED, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER OLSON, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**  
**The agenda items approved are as follows:**

- A. **ROLL CALL**
- B. **APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 22, 2008.**
- C. **APPROVAL OF CLAIM CHECKS #103760 THROUGH #103910 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$866,865.62 ISSUED APRIL 24, 2008, AND CLAIM CHECKS #103911 THROUGH #104034 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$135,548.27 ISSUED MAY 1, 2008.**
- D. **ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF CLAIM FOR DAMAGES FROM RALPH MACDONALD (\$4,000.00).**
- E. **PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF BUILDING SAFETY WEEK, MAY 5 - 11, 2008.**

Approve  
Agenda

Roll Call

Approve  
4/22/08  
Minutes

Approve  
Claim  
Checks

Approve  
Claim for  
Damages

Safety Week  
Proclamation

Report on Bids

F. **REPORT OF BIDS OPENED ON APRIL 16, 2008 FOR THE CITY OF LYNNWOOD OLYMPIC VIEW DRIVE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND COUNCIL APPROVAL FOR THE CITY OF LYNNWOOD TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO INCLUDE CITY OF EDMONDS WATERMAIN AND SEWER BID SCHEDULES.**

Report on Bids

G. **REPORT ON BIDS OPENED ON APRIL 29, 2008 FOR THE LIFT STATIONS 7 & 8 REPLACEMENT AND REHABILITATION PROJECT AND AWARD OF CONTRACT TO INTERWEST CONSTRUCTION, INC. (\$2,240,196.06).**

Call for Bids

H. **AUTHORIZATION TO CALL FOR BIDS FOR THE 76TH AVENUE WEST/75TH PLACE WEST WALKWAY AND 162ND STREET PARK PROJECT.**

Approve Teamsters Tentative Labor Agreement

I. **APPROVAL OF A TENTATIVE LABOR AGREEMENT WITH THE TEAMSTERS UNION.**

**EMS Levy**

EMS Levy

As this would be the last televised Council meeting until May 20, the date of the EMS election. Mayor Haakenson reminded citizens that ballots had been mailed and encouraged them to contact the Auditor's Office if they had not received a ballot. He noted the City Council passed a resolution in support of the EMS Levy and urged citizens to vote "the right way" on the EMS levy.

Councilmember Wambolt noted there were two items on the May 20 ballot, the City's EMS Levy as well as the Edmonds School District Levy. If approved, both would take effect in 2009; the cost would be \$0.06 less per \$1,000 of assessed value than this year.

Councilmember Wilson thanked those who participated in a group supporting the EMS Levy that included several Councilmembers, Mayor Haakenson, Fire Chief Tom Tomberg, Doug Dahl, Margie Hyde, Dave Page, Mike Mestres, Carol and Doug Shelton, Ryan Flynn, and several other community members. He noted the Council was on record that the right way to vote was in favor of the EMS Levy.

Mayor Haakenson advised ballots could be dropped off at the Snohomish County Auditor's Office or at the Westgate QFC May 15-17 and May 19 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. as well as on May 20 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. There was also an Edmonds accessible voting machine site.

Proclamation Police Week

**3. PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF NATIONAL POLICE WEEK, MAY 11 - 17, 2008.**

Mayor Haakenson read a proclamation declaring May 11-17 as Police Week in Edmonds and invited the public to join him in honoring the service of law enforcement officers in the community and communities across the nation and in recognizing the service and sacrifice of those law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty while protecting the public and safeguarding democracy.

Mayor Haakenson recognized Darlene Stern in the audience, wife of the late David Stern, Edmonds Police Chief.

Police Chief Al Compaan invited the Council and the public to the Police Department awards night on May 15, National Peace Officers Memorial Day, in Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m. where members of the Police Department would be recognized as well as members of the community for their efforts over the past year to assist the Police Department.

**4. SWEARING-IN OF CORPORAL AARON GREENMUN.**

Swearing-in Aaron Greenmun

Mayor Haakenson advised this was the beginning of a new practice to swear in Police Officers before the City Council.

Police Chief Al Compaan described Officer Greenmun's background beginning as a cadet in January 1995. Officer Greenmun became a reserve officer in 1997 graduating in the top of his class. He was

hired as a full-time officer in 1999, serving as a reserve academy instructor in domestic violence and criminal law and teaching at the Edmonds Police Department citizen's academy. He was selected as the elementary school resource officer in 2003, and serves as the Department's background investigator and recruiter. He also began the American Cancer Society's kayak adventure camp for teen cancer survivors in 1999 and continues to lead their annual weeklong trip. He recently competed in a promotional test for the rank of corporal and placed number one on the eligibility list. Chief Compaan swore in Corporal Greenmun and his father pinned on his badge.

Corporal Greenmun introduced and thanked his wife, his two children, his mother and father, and his mother-in-law. He also expressed his appreciation to Chief Stern's wife, Darlene Stern, and his co-workers for their support.

5. **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE COMMUNITY TRANSIT SWIFT BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) STATIONS DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT.**

Traffic Engineer Bertrand Hauss explained the Swift BRT Community Transit Route was a 16.7 mile bus route operated by Community Transit between the Everett Station and the Aurora Village Transit Center in Shoreline primarily along Hwy. 99. There will be a station located at approximately each mile, 15 stations southbound and 14 stations northbound. Three stations will be located in Edmonds along Highway 99, one on the southwest corner of Highway 99 at 216<sup>th</sup> Street, and two stations at Highway 99 and 238<sup>th</sup> on the northeast and southwest corners. He displayed an aerial view of the station platform for the station located on the southwest corner of 238<sup>th</sup>, advising the only change to this location was driveway reconfiguration; there would be no change in the local bus stop location. He advised the local bus stop station on the northeast corner of 238<sup>th</sup> and Hwy. 99 would be relocated slightly north of the proposed Swift station and there would be a slight driveway reconfiguration.

He displayed a drawing of the station, advising the platforms would be well lit with protected seating areas, two vending machines where riders would pay fares prior to boarding, information signage, and dynamic signage displaying the time of the next bus. He also displayed an aerial and side view of the proposed stations. He described features of the proposed Swift BRT buses:

- Hybrid, articulated bus approximately 60 feet long
- ADA compliant
- Interior bike racks
- Ten minute headway between buses
- Operate 20 hours per day 7 days a week
- Reduced travel time from the current 71 minutes to approximately 50 minutes
- Traffic signal priority

Mr. Hauss advised the development agreement was designed to vest Community Transit for five years, establishes mitigation measures agreed upon with Community Transit, identifies design standards and ensures consistency.

He reviewed the station personalization menu that allows jurisdictions to select a concrete treatment theme - bird, garden, sealife, water or woodland – and noted that staff recommends a combination of water and sealife. Another opportunity for personalization is the station name. Edmonds has until August 1, 2008 to select a name for the station at 238<sup>th</sup> & Hwy. 99. As the station on the northeast corner of 216<sup>th</sup> & Hwy. 99 is within Lynnwood, Edmonds will need to coordinate the name of that station with Lynnwood. Community Transit has also offered three options for a Swift station identifier on the top right corner of each platform, 1) the City produces the identifier with up to \$7,000 provided by Community Transit, 2) the City creates and submits a design to Community Transit for fabrication of the

identifier, or 3) the City's logo. The City has until the end of the year to make a decision regarding the identifier.

Mr. Hauss advised construction will begin in October 2008 and service is anticipated to begin in 2009. He introduced John Anthony, BRT Implementation Manager, Community Transit.

For Councilmember Wambolt, Mr. Hauss described signal prioritization which via a sensor, activated a green light to allow the Swift bus to proceed. He advised the Swift buses would operate in a BRT lane.

Mayor Haakenson opened the public participation portion of the public hearing.

Community  
Transit  
Service

**Al Rutledge, Edmonds**, noted the brochure indicated there would be point-to-point stations from downtown Seattle to Everett. He also inquired about the amount time to travel from downtown Seattle to Everett. Next he described bus service from the Chehalis/Olympia area to Hoquiam/Aberdeen at a cost of \$0.50 per trip and suggested consideration be given to a similar service from Hwy. 99 to Edmonds.

Community  
Transit  
Design

**Roger Hertrich, Edmonds**, referred to the drawing of the station, advising he attended the ADB meeting regarding the station design. He approved of the station and the artwork but expressed concern with the height of the station sign. Recognizing the height was intended to make the sign visible from a distance, he was concerned the mass of the sign was out of scale with the openness of the station. He recommended the Council review the sign and determine whether it was appropriate.

Hearing no further public comment, Mayor Haakenson closed the public participation portion of the public hearing.

Transit  
Connects

In response to the question regarding the connection between the Swift bus and King County system, **John Anthony, BRT Implementation Manager, Community Transit**, explained King County Metro planned to begin construction on their BRT system, Rapid Ride, next year in a phased manner. Swift and Rapid Ride would share a platform at the Aurora Transit Center which would allow patrons leaving Swift to transfer to the Rapid Ride system on the same platform.

**COUNCILMEMBER ORVIS MOVED, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WAMBOLT, TO APPROVE THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT REGARDING THE COMMUNITY TRANSIT BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) STATION AND APPROVE THE ENGINEERING DIVISION WORKING WITH OTHER CITY STAFF, INCLUDING CULTURAL SERVICES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TO DEVELOP THE ART-RELATED IDENTIFYING ELEMENT(S) IN THE PLATFORM SURFACE FOR THE THREE STATIONS AND THE NAMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EACH STATION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## 6. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Adult  
Recreation

**Lora Petso, Edmonds**, referred to a news article in the May 24 *Edmonds Beacon* that sought senior softball players for games in Lynnwood and Everett, not Edmonds. She noted the 2008 Park Plan refers to three regulation softball fields owned by the City; pointing out regulation was 275 feet. She displayed aerial photographs of the three fields identified in the Park Plan, pointing out a distance of 275 feet would take the field of play outside the facility. She referred to the requirement of a minimum of 100 yards for a regulation soccer field, pointing out Frances Anderson Center at 55 yards, Seaview at 85 yards, and Sierra at 85 yards were not regulation fields for adult play and were not large enough to quality as youth fields. She noted the Washington State Youth Soccer Association specifies a field of 90 yards for U6-9 soccer players. She pointed out a field the City may have acquired would have provided sufficient space for a 100 x 50 yard soccer field. She questioned how the City could be green when its citizens were required to drive out of the city for basic services such as adult recreation. She pointed out although GMA gave the

City discretion on how it met its park needs, GMA required the City to meet its park needs. She concluded Edmonds was likely the only city of 40,000 people in the State seeking softball players for games to be played in other cities.

Homeowner  
/Bank  
Protection  
Act

**Leandra Bernstein, LaRouche Political Action Committee**, addressed the foreclosure crisis and the fact that none of the banks in the United States were solvent. She recalled other members of the Committee had spoken to the Council in the past urging them to adopt a resolution endorsing the Homeowner and Bank Protection Act. She noted four states and one hundred cities have passed a resolution; however, to date there has not been any action by Washington State or cities in Washington to protect its citizens and banks. She questioned the inability for government to intervene on the free market or banking system. She also expressed concern with the biofuel policy promoted by Al Gore and the impact it was having on food prices. She provided written materials to the City Clerk.

Homeowner  
/Bank  
Protection  
Act

**Jenny Burns, LaRouche Political Action Committee**, cited the world food and economic crisis, explaining the Homeowner and Bank Protection Act would freeze home foreclosures and regulate banks and speculation. She urged the City Council to meet with them and to adopt a resolution in support of the Homeowner and Bank Protection Act.

Senior  
Center

**Rose Cantwell, President, Board of Directors, South County Senior Center**, explained her election in March along with three other executive offers was the first in the 40 year history of the Center; previously it was a closed board that nominated and elected themselves. Many other senior centers have been very successful in including their membership on the Board and allowing them to vote. Although four new members were elected, much of the previously existing Board remains and has a majority of twelve votes. She noted at the two Board meetings that have been held since the election, those members passed motions that were not in compliance with the bylaws or Articles of Incorporation. When she ruled the motion out of order, they overruled the Chair's position. She was concerned that meetings were being conducted with no written guidelines and the 12 board members were dictating their wishes to over 1,000 members of the Center, a situation she doubted the community or the City would condone. She emphasized the need to rewrite the bylaws. She noted an upcoming motion by members of the old Board would not allow her to speak to the Council as President of the Board without the permission of the Director of the Center.

Transportation  
Benefit  
District

**Mike Cooper, Snohomish County Councilmember**, welcomed Ms. Cantwell to speak to the Snohomish County Council. He advised the Snohomish County Council passed a resolution that the County Council did not plan to establish a countywide Transportation District with a \$20 vehicle license fee without a public vote prior to the May 22 deadline. He assured the Snohomish County Council was committed to working with cities over the next several months to determine the viability of a resolution and possible ballot measure on a region-wide Transportation Benefit District, including the possibility of a District comprised of cities in the Urban Growth Area.

Senior  
Center

**Al Rutledge, Edmonds**, referred to letters former Mayor Fahey and current Mayor Haakenson had written regarding the South County Senior Center. He recalled former Mayor Fahey formed an advisory committee that recommended replacing the senior center with a new building. Next, he reported on Stevens Hospital Board meetings he has attended and the ability for the public to request information on a Hospital Commissioner. He expressed his support for the May 20 EMS Levy, recalling the enactment of \$400 transportation fee in August 1997.

Senior  
Center

**Roger Hertrich, Edmonds**, commented Ms. Cantwell's remarks were very polite compared to the behavior of several members of the Senior Center Board at the last two meetings. He recalled encountering Jeanette Wood and Mel Steinke, members of the old Board, as they were leaving a meeting where they were developing their own bylaws to allow them to control the organization. He

recommended the City and Snohomish County who provided funds to the Center take some action with regard to the situation at the Senior Center. He also recommended forming a committee to provide information to the Council. He expressed concern with the conduct of the old Board during Senior Center Board meetings. He recalled 80% of the Senior Center membership voted for the new President and Vice President. He urged the Council to take some action with regard to the Senior Center.

Senior  
Center

**Ray Martin, Edmonds**, encouraged the Council to educate themselves with regard to what was occurring at the Senior Center, recognizing that several City Councilmembers, Mayor Haakenson and County Councilmember Cooper had attended meetings at the Center. As the behavior of several Board members at recent Senior Center Board meetings had been very unpleasant, he suggested a police officer attend the meetings. He commended President Cantwell for her professional manner at the recent Board meetings and encouraged Councilmembers to attend Board meetings.

Senior  
Center

**Elizabeth Wingate, Edmonds**, invited Councilmembers to attend the next Senior Center Board meeting. She explained the board members who had been in office for a long period of time were meeting prior to Board meetings and had proposed a number of motions that directly limited the effectiveness of the newly elected officers, contrary to the bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation. She recalled the largest turnout of members, 80%, voted in favor of the new members.

Memorial  
Day  
Ceremony

**Dale Hoggins, Edmonds**, Edmonds Cemetery Board Member and Chair of the Memorial Day program, invited the community to the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Edmonds Memorial Cemetery and Columbarium where they would honor Gold Star Families and remember those who have died serving our country. He explained there had been 13 Snohomish County military casualties since September 11, 2001. The ceremony would also include a special salute to Rosie the Riveters of WWII, a salute to the submarine service, and tours of the cemetery and columbarium. He also invited the public to the annual Walk Back in Time on July 19, 2008, that included a guided tour of the cemetery from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Mayor Haakenson thanked Mr. Hoggins for everything the Cemetery Board and he did to present the best Memorial Day ceremony in Snohomish County if not the State.

## 8. DRAFT RESOLUTION REGARDING STEVENS HOSPITAL

Stevens  
Hospital

Councilmember Wilson recalled Stevens Hospital CEO Michael Carter cancelled his April 22 presentation to the Council. The following morning Councilmember Wilson attended the Stevens Hospital Board meeting to express concerns/questions he raised at the Council meeting. At that meeting he learned from an audience member that the Board planned to meet on May 8 at Embassy Suites to consider the future of Stevens Hospital, a meeting that has not been advertised to the public. The agenda for that meeting includes consideration of a possible bond and/or levy of approximately \$400 million, and possible sale of the facility or forming a public/private partnership. He commented on a recent meeting with Commissioner Fred Langer to discuss his concern that there had not yet been any public dialogue.

Councilmember Wilson read an email from Commissioner Cole expressing her support for the Council's approval of the proposed resolution to impart the Council's position to Stevens Hospital. She supported Edmonds City Council joining SCIU and her in vocalizing a desire to avoid a sale or partnership and focusing on strengthening the hospital in its current location.

Councilmember Wilson voiced his concern with the Stevens Hospital administration's lack of transparency and disrespect of the public.

Councilmember Wambolt commended Councilmember Wilson for surfacing this issue with Stevens Hospital. He referred to a May 4 *Everett Herald* article regarding the award of a marketing contract to a

company owned by one of the hospital officers and his wife. He assured the Council was not critical of the healthcare provided by Stevens Hospital but had concerns with the administration. He questioned the need for a \$100,000 study to determine if the hospital was profitable, recalling the cost of a brief stay and the number of patients served by the hospital. He questioned how Stevens Hospital could abandon the medical infrastructure surrounding the hospital, noting duplicating those services would be costly to taxpayers.

Mayor Haakenson referred to Section 1 of the resolution, that the City of Edmonds supports the further development and success of Stevens Hospital in its current location and in its current governance and organization structure and suggested adding to Section 2 [that the City of Edmonds] will oppose any measure to relocate the hospital from its current location, any sale of this public asset to a private entity *if that sale would diminish or hinder the ongoing delivery of quality healthcare at Stevens Hospital*, and any initiative that will diminish or hinder the ongoing delivery of quality healthcare at Stevens Hospital.

Councilmember Wilson opposed the language proposed by Mayor Haakenson, advising he was open to the idea that a sale and/or public/private partnership could be workable, but not until the administration began a good faith, honest, transparent process which they had not yet done. As a public affairs consultant, he had experience with the acquisition of public hospitals by a private entity. In one instance in Idaho, it worked out; however, the other two in Washington State where the marketplace was highly regulated, services at the community hospitals were diminished significantly and the public had no recourse. He noted even with a good faith statement by an acquiring entity, the community lost all control. Until information is submitted otherwise, he recommended Council oppose any private purchase.

Councilmember Wambolt did not support sale of the hospital to a private entity.

Councilmember Bernheim commented without comprehensive knowledge of the situation, he was not prepared to condemn a potential sale of the hospital, particularly if it improved the quality of care. He proposed an amendment that the City oppose any sale that would diminish or hinder the quality of healthcare. He concluded it was premature for the Council to oppose the sale of the hospital without further information. He questioned why moving the hospital was being contemplated and anticipated it was only a rumor. He also expressed concern with Stevens Hospital awarding a contract to a publicity company owned by the Executive Vice President.

Council President Plunkett expressed support for the resolution and an amendment such as Mayor Haakenson suggested.

Councilmember Wilson assured relocating Stevens Hospital was not a rumor and had been a topic of discussion by the hospital for years. He recalled expressing concern to Mr. Carter that a decision would be made regarding relocation without adequate notice to the public and Mr. Carter's confirmation that it was likely the community would not be informed or allowed to participate in the discussion before a plan to relocate the hospital was formulated. He recalled Multicare's purchase of a hospital with the express purpose of closing it because in the regulated marketplace, the increase per bed in revenue offset the acquisition. In the case of Swedish Hospital's acquisition of Ballard Hospital, the result was referrals were made directly to Swedish. Similarly, if Stevens Hospital were acquired by Providence or Swedish Hospital, patients would be referred to the owning hospital and would not have the option of going to another hospital such as Northwest. He noted in all the instances where a hospital in Washington was purchased by a private entity, services have diminished or the facility was closed. He assured the Council could take a different position in the future once further assurances were offered; however, until then he was opposed to any measure to relocate the hospital from its current location or the sale of the hospital.

Councilmember Wambolt expressed support for Councilmember Wilson's comments, agreeing if adequate data was provided supporting sale of the hospital, the Council could change its position.

**COUNCILMEMBER WILSON, MOVED, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WAMBOLT, FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 1173, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF EDMONDS REGARDING STEVENS HOSPITAL.**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PLUNKETT MOVED, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BERNHEIM, TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION TO REVISE THE WORDING OF SECTION 2 AS FOLLOWS: WOULD OPPOSE ANY MEASURE TO RE-LOCATE THE HOSPITAL FROM ITS CURRENT LOCATION, ANY SALE OF THIS PUBLIC ASSET TO A PRIVATE ENTITY, IF IT DIMINISHES OR HINDERS ONGOING DELIVERY FOR QUALITY HEALTHCARE AT STEVENS HOSPITAL, AND ANY INITIATIVE THAT WILL DIMINISH OR HINDER THE ONGOING DELIVERY OF QUALITY HEALTHCARE AT STEVENS HOSPITAL.**

**THE AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION FAILED (2-4), COUNCIL PRESIDENT PLUNKETT AND COUNCILMEMBER BERNHEIM VOTING IN FAVOR.**

**THE VOTE ON THE MAIN MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**7. REPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVE MARKO LIAS.**

Representative Marko Lias expressed his thanks to the Mayor, Council and Student Representative for their assistance in acclimating him to his new responsibilities in the Legislature as well as their patience as he acclimated. He provided highlights of the 60-day 2008 Legislative session.

Broad Issues

- Budget
  - Passed a \$215 million supplemental budget. He explained a biennial budget, passed in the odd numbered year, was then adjusted in the even numbered year. The new biennial budget is \$29.9 billion including \$850 million in reserves.
- Housing
  - \$70 million was added in the supplemental budget to increase the amount in the biennial budget to \$200 million for investments in affordable housing and housing for the homeless.
  - Created Rapid Response Loan Program, a pool of funds that non-profit and developers can access to create new and protect existing affordable housing.
- Transportation
  - Created a SR520 funding plan.
  - A decision on the central portion of the Alaskan Way Viaduct will be made by yearend.
- Environment
  - Provided flood relief for the Chehalis River Basin.
  - Create an economic climate that supports green collar jobs.
  - Approved funding to study tidal and wave energy.

Local Issues:

- UW North
  - Assistance of leaders throughout Snohomish County will be required. He encouraged Edmonds to be involved in the process.
  - Supplemental budget included \$100,000 to assist communities in Snohomish County in identifying a preferred site.
- Public Safety
  - Passed a framework to create a dedicated funding stream to support Public Safety for LEOFF1 liability and LEOFF2 enhancements.

2008  
Legislative  
Session

- State Fire Protection Policy Board was asked to consider costs/benefits of fire sprinklers in private residents.
- Improved sex offender statutes.
- Land Use
  - Addressed impacts of climate change via GMA via a voluntary program and additional resources.
  - Encouraged urban forestry via a voluntary grant program.
- 21<sup>st</sup> District
  - Secured \$200,000 in the operating budget for the Lake Ballinger Action Plan.
  - \$58 million in the transportation budget for the 21<sup>st</sup> District including \$1 million for the Edmonds Crossing project.
  - Secured \$160,000 in the capital budget for the YMCA Somerset Village project near Edmonds Community College.

What Didn't Make It

- Executive Session taping
- Coordinated planning in UGA
- REET flexibility

Continuing Work

- Executive Session taping
- Climate Change
- Transportation infrastructure funding
- Healthcare

Councilmember Wilson thanked Representative Liias for his work on Lake Ballinger. Representative Liias thanked the City and particularly Councilmember Wilson for his assistance on that issue.

Councilmember Orvis expressed supported for taping Executive Sessions although he acknowledged it was not uniformly supported by all Councilmembers. He explained Edmonds currently exceeded the requirements and maintained minutes of Executive Sessions that were disclosed after the issue of the Executive Session had been concluded.

Councilmember Orvis observed during the recent session, the Senate considered bills that would reform guardianship laws in the State of Washington. He noted if guardianship laws were not drafted correctly, they could unfairly deprive individuals of their liberty and property with little due process.

Councilmember Wambolt referred to Councilmember Orvis' comment that some Councilmembers did not favor taping Executive Sessions, noting he was not referring to the Edmonds City Council as Edmonds City Councilmembers did not oppose taping Executive Sessions.

Student Representative Scheibert thanked Representative Liias for the invitation she received to a community meeting shortly after his appointment.

**9. MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Haakenson urged the public to vote for the EMS levy. Next, he congratulated Councilmember Wilson on the birth of his second child tomorrow.

**10. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council President Plunkett also congratulated Councilmember Wilson.

Mayor's  
Comments

Council  
Comments

Councilmember Wambolt relayed a number of citizens had asked him what EMS was; he explained it was Emergency Medical Service - the aid car that responded when someone called 911.

With regard to the Senior Center, Councilmember Wambolt anticipated the Council would be contacted by citizens urging them to do something about the situation. He acknowledged there were limits with regard to what the City could do but anticipated there must be something that could be done. He was confused that new officers had been elected but there were still old board members. He noted unlike most organizations, the Senior Center bylaws allows the election of officers but not board members, a practice he noted was backward; typically the membership elected board members and the board named the officers. He asked whether Mayor Haakenson had any recommendations regarding what could be done. Mayor Haakenson responded he had attended board meetings as well as communicated with many of the board members regarding their concerns. He agreed the organization of the Senior Center was confusing, explaining the original bylaws were written incorrectly and need to be revised. He planned to meet with Ms. Cantwell this week and attend the May 21 Board meeting and offered to provide the Council an update at the May 27 meeting.

Councilmember Wilson thanked the Council for their congratulations on the impending birth of his daughter. He reiterated Councilmember Wambolt's comments regarding the Senior Center and suggested withholding funding to the Senior Center until there was clarity regarding the organizational structure. Mayor Haakenson explained the Council approved \$40,000-50,000 in each year's budget for programs and services at the Senior Center. He did not support withholding funding as it would unfairly penalize the users of the Senior Center as well as require that those programs and services be provided via the Parks & Recreation Department budget. He was hopeful a workable solution could be identified.

Councilmember Bernheim agreed there was a mess at the Senior Center, commenting he had visited the Center both as a Councilmember and a Senior Center member. He found it distressing that the members of the Senior Center must devote their sunset years to these types of internal squabbles that were substantially unjustified by the "old guard." He noted the 80% vote of the membership was an undeniable expression of the membership's wish that the old guard liberalize their closed ways and cease their squabbling about taking way power from the officers. He urged Councilmembers to join him at the Senior Center's May 7 open door meeting of the board members and at the Board meeting on May 21 at 6:30 p.m. He noted attendance by the Council at the Board meeting may encourage board members to refrain from acting in the manner they have at previous meetings.

Councilmember Bernheim reported on the dedication of the I-5 overpass at 124<sup>th</sup> Street, commenting on the connection this provided between Edmonds and Everett on the interurban trail.

Student Representative Scheibert commented on the presentation by the members of the LaRouche Political Action Committee, encouraging the Council to separate Al Gore's environmental goals from his financial goals. She congratulated Councilmember Wilson on the impending birth of his new baby.

## 11. ADJOURN

With no further business, the Council meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.